

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 19473 291732Z
ACTION EPA-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 /024 W
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R 291722Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0782

UNCLAS LONDON 19473

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, OECD
SUB: AIR AND WATER STANDARDS

REF: STATE 246231

1. SCI COUNS REQUESTED INFORMATION PER PARAGRAPH 1
OF REFERENCE FROM TONY FAIRCLOUGH, CENTRAL UNIT ON
ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AT DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT.
REPLY FROM HIS STAFF, JUST RECEIVED, IS AS FOLLOWS.

2. "TAKING AIR QUALITY STANDARDS FIRST, THE SHORT
ANSWER IS THAT WE HAVE NONE (BUT THE ROYAL COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION HAS RECOMMENDED THE USE
OF AIR QUALITY GUIDELINES). SIMILARLY OUR POLICY ON

WATER POLLUTION IS NOT TO SET FIXED STANDARDS. A
RECENT REPORT BY THIS DEPARTMENT, POLLUTION PAPER NO.
11 ENTITLED 'ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS', CONTAINS A
DESCRIPTION OF UNITED KINGDOM PRACTICE IN BOTH THESE
AREAS. PARAGRAPHS 34 TO 38 ARE CONCERNED WITH
EMISSIONS TO AIR AND PARAGRAPHS 39 TO 43 WITH
EMISSIONS TO WATER. THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON ENVIRON-
MENTAL POLLUTION FIFTH REPORT, ON AIR POLLUTION
CONTROL, DEALS WITH AIR QUALITY IN PARAGRAPHS 167 TO
178. THE COMMISSION ENDORSED OUR VIEW THAT AIR
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QUALITY STANDARDS ARE NOT A SENSIBLE WAY OF FOCUSING
ON THIS. I ASSUME YOU HAVE COPIES OF BOTH THE
PUBLICATIONS MENTIONED, BUT IF NOT I SHALL BE HAPPY
TO SUPPLY THEM.

3. CONTINUING: "ENFORCEMENT OF THESE CONTROLS IS BY
THE AUTHORITIES WITH WHOM RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM LIES.

THERE ARE SUFFICIENT POWERS IN THE RELEVANT LEGISLATION TO ENABLE PROSECUTIONS TO BE MADE, BUT THE NEED FOR PROSECUTION DOES NOT OFTEN ARISE. PARAGRAPHS 382 OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION REPORT ON AIR POLLUTION GIVES AN OPINION THAT A MILITANT PROSECUTION POLICY WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE AND THERE ARE FURTHER REFERENCES ON PAGES 110 AND 111 TO ENFORCEMENT AND PROSECUTION".

4. REFERENCED DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED.

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WATER, STANDARDS, ATMOSPHERE, ENVIRONMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON19473
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770442-0371
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977119/aaaaahev.tel
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Litigation Codes:
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SAS ID: 695733
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AIR AND WATER STANDARDS
TAGS: SENV, OECD
To: STATE
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